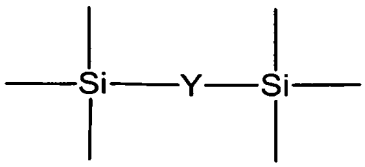
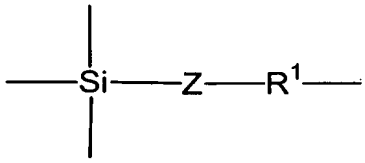
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An electrophotographic photoreceptor comprising a conductive support having formed thereon a photosensitive layer, wherein the photosensitive layer comprises a siloxane resin-containing layer containing a siloxane resin having a structural unit represented by general formula (1) shown below, a structural unit represented by general formula (2) shown below, and an organic group derived from a compound having hole transport capability:



(1)



(2)

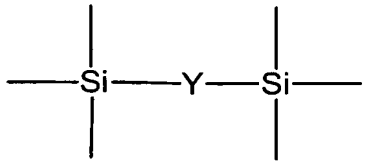
wherein, in formula (1), Y represents a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain, and in formula (2), R^1 represents an alkylene group, and Z represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or NH, and

wherein the divalent group is at least one selected from a group consisting of $-C_nH_{2n}-$, $-C_nH_{2n-2}-$, $-C_nH_{2n-4}-$, $-C_6H_4-$, $-C_6H_4-C_6H_4-$, $-NH-$, $-C_nF_{2n}-$, $-COO-$, $-S-$, $-O-$ and $-N=CH-$,

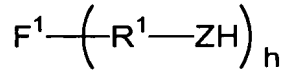
wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 15,

provided that when a divalent group containing –S–, –NH– and –O– is used for Y, such a group is used in combination with a group containing a carbon atom to constitute a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain.

2. (Previously Presented) An electrophotographic photoreceptor comprising a conductive support having formed thereon a photosensitive layer, wherein the photosensitive layer comprises a siloxane resin-containing layer containing a siloxane resin obtained by using an organic silicon compound having a structural unit represented by general formula (1) shown below and a hydrolytic group, and a compound represented by general formula (3) shown below:



(1)



(3)

wherein, in formula (1), Y represents a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain, and in formula (3), F^1 represents an organic group derived from a compound having hole transport capability, R^1 represents an alkylene group, Z represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or NH, and h represents an integer of 1 to 4, and

wherein the divalent group is at least one selected from a group consisting of $–C_nH_{2n}–$, $–C_nH_{2n-2}–$, $–C_nH_{2n-4}–$, $–C_6H_4–$, $–C_6H_4–C_6H_4–$, –NH–, $–C_nF_{2n}–$, –COO–, –S–, –O– and –N=CH–,

wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 15,

provided that when a divalent group containing –S–, –NH– and –O– is used for Y, such a group is used in combination with a group containing a carbon atom to constitute a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain.

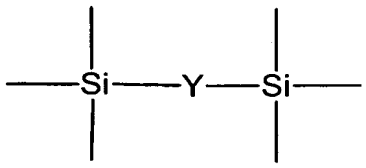
3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

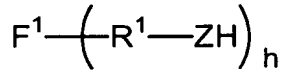
5. (Previously Amended) A method for producing an electrophotographic photoreceptor comprising a conductive support having formed thereon a photosensitive layer containing a siloxane resin-containing layer, which comprises:

a coating solution preparing step of preparing a coating solution for formation of a siloxane resin-containing layer using an organic silicon compound having a structural unit represented by general formula (1) shown below and a hydrolytic group, and a compound represented by general formula (3) shown below; and

a siloxane resin-containing layer forming step of forming the siloxane resin-containing layer using the coating solution:



(1)



(3)

wherein, in formula (1), Y represents a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain, and in formula (3), F^1 represents an organic group derived from a compound having hole transport capability, R^1 represents an alkylene group, Z represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or NH, and h represents an integer of 1 to 4, and

wherein the divalent group is at least one selected from a group consisting of $-C_nH_{2n}-$, $-C_nH_{2n-2}-$, $-C_nH_{2n-4}-$, $-C_6H_4-$, $-C_6H_4-C_6H_4-$, $-NH-$, $-C_nF_{2n}-$, $-COO-$, $-S-$, $-O-$ and $-N=CH-$,

wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 15,

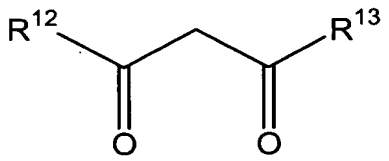
provided that when a divalent group containing –S–, –NH– and –O– is used for Y, such a group is used in combination with a group containing a carbon atom to constitute a divalent group containing at least one carbon atom in its main chain.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the coating solution contains a metal chelate compound.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the metal chelate compound is an ~~aluminum chelate compound~~ organic aluminum compound.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the coating solution contains a multidentate ligand.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the multidentate ligand is represented by the following general formula (37):



(37)

wherein R^{12} and R^{13} each independently represents an alkyl or fluorinated alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms or an alkoxyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the coating solution contains a multidentate ligand.

11. (Original) An image forming apparatus comprising:

an electrophotographic photoreceptor according to claim 1;

a charging device for charging the electrophotographic photoreceptor;

an exposing device for exposing the charged electrophotographic photoreceptor to form an electrostatic latent image;

a developing device for developing the electrostatic latent image to form a toner image; and

a transfer device for transferring the toner image to a medium to which the toner image is to be transferred.

12. (Original) A process cartridge comprising:

an electrophotographic photoreceptor according to claim 1; and

at least one member selected from the group consisting of a charging device for charging an electrophotographic photoreceptor, an exposing device for exposing a charged electrophotographic photoreceptor to form an electrostatic latent image, and a cleaning device for cleaning an electrophotographic photoreceptor.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)